



April 6, 2015

Weekly Report

Highlight of Departmental Activities

The Weekly Report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the many Departments within Rutherford County Government. Click on the directory lists, headings and text in blue to be linked to more information.

Department Directory

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Did you know? Easter is always celebrated on the Sunday immediately following the Paschal (Passover) Full Moon, falling on or after the Spring Equinox (March 21). The Paschal Full Moon can vary as much as two days from the date of the actual full moon, with dates ranging from March 21 to April 18. As a result, Easter dates can range from March 22 through April 25. **Now you know!**



You may remember walking up the sidewalk to church on Easter morning with your family. Mom wore a hat, Dad was in a suit, and the children had on their finest Spring clothes. Others remember searching for eggs and candy, then tearing into an Easter basket brimming with treats. Whatever your memories, Easter is a time of renewal and awakening. It is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal, and new life! Easter (Resurrection Sunday) is a festival and holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred three days after his crucifixion by Romans at Calvary. Give thanks for the resurrection of Christ, and may your heart be filled with joy and peace this Easter!

Airport

The Airport sold 456.3 gallons of 100LL and 282.0 gallons of Jet A. The Airport Manager attended the annual conference for the North Carolina Airport Association as well as several other local meetings.

Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

- assisted ECA in planning district program.
- completed end of month reports.
- promoted new program "Eat Smart Move More Take Control".
- prepared upcoming programs.

Eat Smart
Move More


Take
Control

Nutrition Program
for Adults

Program Benefits

- Sample healthy foods
- A cookbook, water bottle, and spice jar for you to keep
- Information to help you control sodium, fat, and added sugar
- 6 engaging and interactive sessions

Take control
NOW to prevent
or manage
chronic
disease!



Come learn lifelong habits to help you eat healthy and be physically active!

Start Date (Days): Begins April 14. Meets each Tuesday for six weeks. Ends May 19.

Time: 10:00 - 11:00 am

Location: Cooperative Extension, 193 Callahan Koon Road, Spindale, NC

For more information or to sign up, contact:
Cooperative Extension 287-6010 or tracy_davis@ncsu.edu

Board of Elections



Salem for the North Carolina Association of Directors of Election Conference where the Director was presented a plaque as the outgoing President. Congratulations, Debbie Bedford, for a job well done!

During the week, the Director met with the County Manager and Finance staff to review the departments budget. Director and staff traveled to Winston-



Clerk to the Board

It has been a short but busy week in the County Commissioners' Office. The first part of the week was spent preparing the agenda for the April 6, 2015 regular meeting. The agenda was completed and posted online on Wednesday afternoon. County Manager Steve Garrison reviewed the agenda items with County Commissioners during the week. On Thursday evening Vice Chairman Toney will be attending the district meeting of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to be held in Iredell County.

County Manager

The County Manager met with Commissioners preparing for the upcoming Board of Commissioners' Meeting scheduled for April 6, 2015. The manager enjoyed a tour of several county offices including the Convenience Centers with James Kilgo. Receiving updates on a number of projects were part of the eventful week during meetings with various Department Heads. The week continued with additional duties, consisting of numerous calls, interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, preparation for various responsibilities and meeting with citizens.

Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department continued working with existing industries considering reinvestment opportunities, explored eligible grant programs in support of existing industry expansions, continued efforts toward marketing and promoting Rutherford County and economic development product, and continued the process of updating the contacts database. Economic Development staff continues to be busy following up on multiple industrial recruitment activities, reaching out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines, contacting existing industry to arrange BR&E visits, and reviewing the progress of grading at Gateway West Commerce Park. This week's schedule also included a familiarization tour of available buildings and sites for the Economic Development team to gather product specific information and photos for the development of future marketing materials and client development initiatives.

Finance

The Director continues to work on compiling the departmental budget requests. The Finance Office has processed accounts payable this week. We hope everyone has a wonderful Easter holiday.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

- worked with GIS on identifying fire hydrants.
- picked up equipment loaned to Buncombe County for use in an exercise.
- assisted Black Mountain Fire Department with an urban interface fire.
- continued work with architect on emergency services training ground project.

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Welcome new hires:

- Paula Riggs (DSS)
- Jason Harrill (Building Inspections)

Employees who have left the service of Rutherford County are Ricky McKinney (Sheriff). The Director held several meetings with various department heads, and attended a JCPC meeting. The Director, along with the County Manager, met with Charlie Eaton of NCACC. Current vacancies are as listed:

- Part-time Transit and EMS.

Apply at Rutherfordcountync.gov or 289 North Main Street.

"A 50th Birthday Toast to our Amazing Personnel Director, Debra Conner, celebrating '29 and holding' on March 29th!" (pictured to right)

Be watching for email blasts for Relay for Life (for further info, see pages 9 - 11).

The **Annual County Employee Blood Drive** is scheduled for May 6 from 11:00 am-3:30 pm. Please contact the Human Resources Department to sign up: 828-287-6145.



EVERY PINT OF BLOOD CAN SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES! REMEMBER, THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN OR THAT OF A LOVED ONE.

Library

Library Director:

The spring book sale was a success. April helped out on Saturday and approximately 30 people came for the final dollar a bag day. Completing funding paperwork for grants received, working up numbers for the March Library report, and making new website recommendations took quite a bit of time this week. In addition, Ms. Antillah Ghaleb, a Job Shadow student from Rutherford Early College High School, visited on Wednesday to gain a better understanding of what it means to work in a library.

Circulation Manager:

Stephanie Long viewed a webinar entitled **Golden Age of Gaming: Board Games for Grown-ups**. This webinar provided an overview of the many different types of board games available for adults. It also discussed ways in which libraries can use these games to encourage patron involvement and interaction.

IT Librarian:

Beginning April 7th, the Rutherford County Library on Callahan Koon Road in Spindale will offer free computer training classes. These short, hour long computer sessions will focus on familiarizing users with basic computer skills. The initial round of classes will pertain to computer basics, internet usage, beginning email, and online job searching. There are no requirements to participant in the computer classes and seats will be filled first come, first served.

Computer Training will be offered on the following schedule:

Computer Basics—April 7th, 3pm & April 9th, 10am

Internet Basics—April 14th, 3pm & April 16th, 10am

Email Basics—April 21st, 3pm & April 23rd, 10am

Job Searching Online—April 28th, 3pm & April 30th, 10am

There are 4 seats for each class. All computer training is currently only offered at the Rutherford County Library at 255 Callahan-Koon Rd. in Spindale (next to the Health Department). For more information, contact the library at 287-6115.



Youth Services Librarian:

There have been daily Easter parties at each of the Story Times this week. We'll be returning to our theme of "Wild Animals" next week by learning about Lions and Tigers. Ms. Heather Darrow, a Job Shadow student from Rutherford Early College High School, was able to observe and assist Tuesday morning, and discovered what is involved in being a Children's Librarian. Over 50 people attended the first Super Science Saturday on March 28, which we were pleased considering it was during Spring Break (**pictured to left**). The next Super Science Saturday will be Saturday, April 25 at 11:00.

Mountains Branch:

Joy and Angie were busy cataloging lots of new and donated books and movies for the collection this week. Angie also assisted patrons with online job applications. Joy conducted an outreach program with an area homeschool group to talk to parents about upcoming children's programming, particularly Science Saturdays, Earth Day and Mothers' Day programs. She also encouraged all the parents to get library cards for their children. The group discussed starting a Lego Club at the library. Joy sent out press releases to several local media outlets including the Breeze, Rutherford Weekly and the Daily Courier. In addition, Joy attended the monthly library consortium meeting with other library staff.

Public Works and Planning

As Spring temperatures arrive, coupled with the abundant rainfall recently, we have begun the first mowing of the season. It appears that our maintenance guys will be very busy with groundskeeping activities this summer. Maintenance has been busy in completing TrackIt work orders over the past couple of weeks. The garage finally has the hydraulic lift replacement fully functional, and fully in use as the tempo of work remains very high with oil changes now being in-house. In addition, there have been several repairs, NC Safety inspections, and a number of preventative maintenance needs with the County's fleet of vehicles.

The director had productive meetings with the manager and finance officer while presenting the budget(s) for our complex department. Planning and Projects has been challenged with reviewing a lengthy draft request for proposals that cover performance contracting for the County, College and Schools. We've also met with the manager to share updates on the Capital facilities planning process which includes the schools, college and county.



Meanwhile, construction activities are resuming at the Southeastern EMS and Library site after delays due to wet soils. We have just completed improvements to the Farmers Market facility and finalized the surface improvements to the Rail Trail

(pictured). Benches and signage are anticipated in the near future. The infrastructure improvements at Greyrock and Queens Gap are going smoothly and the break in the weather will enable paving to resume. We held the pre-bid meeting for final paving in Greyrock this week.



We are currently meeting with NCDOT and several key representatives from the towns and county, jointly working on the County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan which is off to a good start. We have been working with the Finance Office to complete the final closeout of grant funds from ABPP regarding archeology studies on the Gilbertowne historical property. We have been working with the County's Planning Board in routing their membership recommendation changes to the Commissioners and subsequent public hearing in their upcoming meetings.

Last but not least, we continue to receive multiple inquiries regarding solar development in the County. We've received the application and initial review of a watershed permit application for the proposed AEO industry to be located in Six Points. At this early stage in the review process, the project appears to be compliant with the County's watershed protection ordinance. However, final review will be thoroughly completed prior to issuance of any permits.

Register of Deeds

Transaction Group	Cash
Copies	\$ 85.00
Real Estate	15,701.00
Marriages	660.00
Vital statistics	1,620.00
Total	\$18,066.00

Revenue Department

The Revenue Department started 5107 July motor vehicle renewals and handled 45 VTS assists. The office answered 589 phone calls and assisted 379 customers. We completed one plat review and answered one data request. Appraisers completed 302 field reviews. A total of 86 new documents were recorded. Transfers consisted of 36 straits, 2 estates, 22 new accounts, 1 merge, 9 splits, and 2 acreage adjustments. GIS created seven new maps. The GIS website had 153,624 hits and 104,528 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned 9 new addresses and updated 26 addresses with new owner information. Two appeals and one listing form were received and two letters were mailed back out. The PUV program assisted three program members. Staff processed 18 exclusions/deferments. We had four refunds and four releases. Electronic payments consisted of 22 by credit card, 54 by website and 9 over the phone. Collection action consisted of eight newspaper items. Staff completed 7 gross receipts/occupancy tax, 2 payment plans and 11 bankruptcy issues. In person taxpayers at the counter brought in 214 tax payments. Sixty-six new deeds were certified for recording purposes.

Soil & Water

Admin/Education Specialist:

- worked on an Earth Day presentation for Chimney Rock Stewardship Day
- worked on District Meeting Agenda
- completed the Safety Inspection Checklist

Ag Cost Share Technician:

- worked on sending watershed documents to Risk Management at NCACC
- worked with land owners on cover crop plans
- monitored BMP installation
- wrote a conservation plan for AgWrap

Solid Waste

The solid waste department has had a very busy week. The solid waste department numbers are below:

- Customers served 338
- Loads hauled from convenience centers 63
- Loads shipped to Lenoir 31
- Recycling loads 3
- Tire customers 29

Please continue to recycle!

Solid Waste continued from page 6

The director gave the County Manager a tour of the landfill operations, old closed landfills and the Cliffside Mill Dump. The tour went very well. The director and recycling coordinator met with a company on the possibility of being able to recycle plastic shopping bags. The director also met with Human Resource Director on employee issues. Staff continues to perform everyday job duties while continuing work at the airport. The staff has completed the Old Edwards House Project (**see pictures below**). Signs are here for the convenience centers and we will start installing them this week. The first sign will be installed at Gilkey. Contractor continues to work on the new concrete drive for Colfax Convenience Center. Staff continues to work on grants for convenience center recycling. Staff is working on the presentation that will be presented to the state of Tennessee on April 21-23. Everyone please remember to recycle!!!

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report is as follows:

Open cases 9
Closed cases 3
Pictures taken Yes
Cameras out at sites 1
Letters written 0
Citations written 0
Community service workers 5
Community service reports 1
Attended one day of in-service training

Old Edward's House Project Complete



Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

Transportation Director, Kerry Giles, and Jill Jones, our new Billing Specialist, traveled to Caldwell County to observe their in-house billing, and were impressed how Caldwell has increased collection rates with in-house billing. EMS personnel took part in Career Day at the Rock this week and have several events scheduled at various schools in the upcoming weeks. EMS hosted five students over the past several weeks from surrounding colleges to perform clinical ride time. They also had two observers who did ride-alongs with supervisors this past week.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	158	168
Convalescent Calls	78	47

Transit Department:

Transit held its 2nd Steering Committee meeting concerning its 5 year plan. Transit's two new drivers completed Transit orientation and are now available to work without monitored supervision.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	9,738	9,566
# of Local Trips	1,071	881
# of Out of County Trips	67	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	202	238
Total Revenue	\$13,736	\$14,549

Veterans Services

"Happy Easter from the Veteran's Office. Our staff loved the Relay for Life Art Class!"

Mail In	24
Fax	109
Mail Out	26
Phone Calls In/Out	109
Veteran Contacts	210

County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, Chairman **Michael Benfield**
Alan Toney, Vice Chairman **Eddie Holland**

Steve Garrison, County Manager
Carl Classen, Interim County Manager
Hazel S. Haynes, Clerk to the Board

Follow us online!

www.rutherfordcountync.gov



Upcoming Events.....

If you would like to assist with any of these events, please print the Sign-up Sheet on page 11, sign and return to Jeanette Bosgra, Finance Department or call 828-287-6211.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER/GOSPEL SINGING

Date: Saturday, **April 11, 2015**
Place: Gray's Creek Baptist Church
Contact: Brandy Greene Morris 828-287-6329

SHOOTING FOR A CURE

Handgun Competition
Shotgun Trap Games



Date: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Place: Old Hickory Rifle and Pistol Club
Gun Club Road, Bostic, NC 28018
Cost: \$5 per shoot
Beginners welcome. Bring your own shotgun, pistol and ammo. Shotgun and pistol ammo will be available for purchase. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be for sale.
Sponsored by: Rutherford Co. Sheriff's Office, Butler's Jewelry and Loan, Old Hickory Rifle & Pistol Club
All proceeds are to benefit **RELAY FOR LIFE**. Come and support a worthy cause!

SPRING PLANT SALE

Transform your landscape and gardens with vibrant colors and fresh foliage!

Date: Order deadline - Thursday, **April 23, 2015**
Place: County Annex
Pick up Date: Friday, **May 1, 2015**
Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Go to Website for Plant Order Form: [http://rutherfordcountync.gov/ fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form\(1\).pdf](http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form(1).pdf)

MAYFEST CUPCAKE BOOTH

Celebrating with a family friendly street festival!

Date: Saturday, **May 2, 2015**
Time: Beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Place: Downtown Rutherfordton

DRESS DOWN FRIDAYS
Give \$30 and reward yourself with dressing down on Fridays!
April to June 2015
Call Brooke Watson for further details at 828-287-6061.



RELAY FOR LIFE COMMUNITY EVENT

Date: Friday, **June 5, 2015**
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Place: Forest City Parks and Recreation

RELAY FOR LIFE Tee shirts available.
Tee shirts are white with purple design.
All Orders must be in to Finance by April 24, 2015



Call Jeanette Bosgra to place order at 828-287-6211.
Pay now (cash or check to ACS) or pay on delivery
Sizes: Youth S- L \$10.00 Adult S- XL \$10.00 / 2X - 6X \$12.00

Don't miss out!
Participate in a Relay for Life event.
Sign-up Sheet on page 11.

Relay Volunteer Sign Up Sheet



Spaghetti Supper/Gospel Singing, Saturday, April 11th

1

2

3

4

Shoot for A Cure, Saturday, April 18th

1

2

3

4

Mayfest, Saturday, May 2nd

1

2

3

4

Relay for Life Community Event

1

2

3

4